

Appl. No. 10/017,513  
Amendment dated February 2, 2005  
Reply to Office action of January 25, 2005

**In the claims:**

Please amend the claims as follows:

**Claim 1.** (currently amended) An audio monitoring and signal processing apparatus including in combination:

- a) a plurality of audio signal inputs, each operable to receive an audio signal which is carried via one or more channels,
- b) a selector for selecting the audio signal which may be present at one of said inputs of a),
- c) a signal processing section responsive to process said selected signal of b) to provided a processed signal carried via one or more channels,
- d) a plurality of output circuits, each responsive to all channels of said processed signal of c) to output said processed signal in a distinct known form,
- e) a monitor circuit responsive to said selected signal of b) and/or said processed signal of c) to provide audible and/or visible monitoring thereof.

**Claim 2.** (currently amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim 1 further including:

- f) parameters which are established in manufacture and/or by an operator wherein said elements b) and c) operate in response to said parameters such that the selecting of b) and/or the processing of c) may automatically change in response to at least one signal present on one said input of a).

**Claim 3.** (original) An apparatus as claimed in claim 1 or 2 further including a mixing element operable to mix a second signal with said selected signal of b) as part of providing said processed signal of c).

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**Claim 4.** (currently amended) An audio monitoring and signal conversion method including in combination:

- a) providing a plurality of audio signal input connections,
- b) selecting one of the audio signals which may be present at one of said input connections of a) which selected audio signal is carried via one or more channels,
- c) processing said selected signal of b) to provide a processed signal carried via one or more channels,
- d) outputting all channels of said processed signal of c) in a plurality of distinct known forms,
- e) monitoring said selected signal of b) and/or said processed signal of c) in audible and/or visible form.

**Claim 5.** (original) A method as claimed in claim 4 further including the step of:

- f) utilizing parameters which are established in manufacture and/or by an operator such that the selecting of step b) and/or the processing of step c) may automatically change in response to at least one signal present on one said input connection of a).

**Claim 6.** (original) A method as claimed in claim 4 or 5 further including a mixing step operable to mix a second signal with said selected signal of b) as part of providing said processed signal of c).

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**Claim 7.** (currently amended) An audio monitoring and signal conversion method including in combination:

- a) providing a plurality of audio signal input connections,
- b) selecting one of the audio signals which may be present at one of said input connections of a), which audio signal is carried on one or more channels,
- c) processing all of the channels of said selected signal of b) to provide a processed signal which includes one or more channels,
- d) outputting all channels of said processed signal of c) in a plurality of distinct known forms at least one of which is analog and at least one of which is digital,
- e) monitoring said selected signal of b) in audible and/or visible form.

**Claim 8.** (currently amended) An audio monitoring and signal conversion method including in combination:

- a) providing a plurality of audio signal input connections,
- b) selecting one of the audio signals which may be present at one of said input connections of a), which audio signal includes one or more channels,
- c) processing said selected signal of b) to provide a processed signal which includes one or more channels and which processed signal is responsive to all of the channels of said selected signal,
- d) outputting all channels of said processed signal of c) in a plurality of distinct known forms at least one of which is analog and at least one of which is digital,
- e) monitoring said processed signal of c) in audible and/or visible form.

**Claim 9.** (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 7 or 8 further including the step of:

- f) utilizing parameters which are established by an operator such that the selecting of step b) and the processing of step c) automatically change in response to at least one signal present on one said input connection of a).

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**Claim 10.** (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 7 or 8 further including a mixing step operable to mix a second signal with said selected signal of b) as part of providing said processed signal of c).

Please add new claims 11 and 12:

**Claim 11.** (new) A method as claimed in claim 7 or 8 wherein in step d) said processed signal is output in analog form and at least two digital forms which are distinct by virtue of having different clock rates.

**Claim 12.** (new) A method as claimed in claim 7 or 8 wherein in step d) said processed signal is output in analog form and at least two digital forms which are distinct by virtue of meeting different industry standards for digital audio signals.